

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims in the above-identified patent application as follows wherein deleted material is marked with a ~~strike through~~ and new material is underlined to show the changes made:

1 1. (**Currently amended**) A computer implemented method of
2 performing electronic commerce, said computer implemented method comprising:
3 listing a set of available products to a set of consumers;
4 accepting a request for a specific product from a particular consumer;
5 accepting a reserve price for said specific product from said particular consumer,
6 said reserve price comprising a price acceptable to said particular consumer;
7 distributing said request for said specific product and said reserve price to a set of
8 sellers;
9 accepting, ~~for a predetermined time period,~~ at most one offer from each said seller
10 in said set of sellers, each said offer comprising an offer price specifying a
11 price at which an associated seller ~~sell~~ will sell said specific product, said
12 accepting occurring for a predetermined time period or until an offer having an
13 offer price less than or equal to said reserve price is received; and
14 consummating a transaction with said offer having ~~if at least one of said offers~~
15 ~~contains~~ an offer price less than or equal to said reserve price if said offer is
16 received.

1 2. **(Currently amended)** The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 1 wherein listing a set of available products comprising operating a
3 World Wide Web site with a catalog of products.

1 3. **(Currently amended)** The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 2 wherein said catalog of products is searchable.


1 4. **(Currently amended)** The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 2 wherein said World Wide Web site comprises a hierarchical directory
3 of products.

1 5. **(Currently amended)** The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 1 wherein accepting a request for a specific product from a particular
3 consumer comprises receiving an HTML form.

1 6. **(Currently amended)** The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 1 wherein distributing said request for said specific product to a set of
3 sellers comprises creating a web page that specifies said request for said specific product
4 and said reserve price.

1 7. (**Currently amended**) The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 1 wherein distributing said request for said specific product to a set of
3 sellers comprises sending an email to at least one seller that specifies said request for said
4 specific product and said reserve price.

1 8. (**Currently amended**) The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 1 wherein accepting offer prices from sellers comprises receiving an
3 email that specifies an offer price for said specific product.



1 9. (**Currently amended**) The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 1 wherein accepting offer prices from sellers comprises receiving an
3 HTML form page that specifies an offer price for said specific product.

1 10. (**Currently amended**) The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 1, said computer implemented method further comprising:
3 displaying a subset list of offers from said sellers to said particular consumer if
4 none of said ~~no~~ offers from said sellers are below said reserve price.

1 11. **(Currently amended)** The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 10 wherein displaying a list of best offers comprises sending an email
3 message specifying said a list of offers to said particular consumer.

1 12. **(Currently amended)** The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 10 wherein displaying a list of best offers comprises generating a web
3 page specifying said a list of offers.

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1 13. **(Currently amended)** The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 10, said computer implemented method further comprising:
3 receiving a designation of one of said offer prices from said particular consumer;
4 and
5 consummating a transaction between said particular consumer and a seller that
6 offered said designated offer price.

1 14. **(Currently amended)** The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 13 wherein identification information associated with said particular
3 consumer is provided to said seller that offered said designated offer price only after said
4 particular consumer has designated said seller.

1 15. **(Currently amended)** The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 13 wherein identification information associated with said seller that
3 offered said designated offer price is provided to said particular consumer only after said
4 particular consumer has designated said seller.

1 16. **(Currently amended)** The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 1, said computer implemented method further comprising:
3 accepting a transaction fee after consummating said transaction.

1 17. **(Currently amended)** The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 1, said computer implemented method further comprising:
3 accepting a consumer registration, said consumer registration comprising
4 information from a consumer required to consummate a transaction between
5 said consumer and a seller.

1 18. **(Currently amended)** The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 1 wherein consummating a transaction if at least one of said offers
3 contains an offer price less than or equal to said reserve price comprising consummating
4 an offer containing said offer price which is the least among the said accepted offers from
5 each said seller the lowest offer price.

1 19. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 1 18 wherein consummating a transaction if at least one of said offers
3 contains an offer price less than or equal to said reserve price comprising consummating
4 an offer received earlier in time if there are two equal lowest offers.

1 20. (Currently amended) A computer implemented method of
2 performing electronic commerce, said computer implemented method comprising:
3 listing a set of available products to a set of consumers;
4 accepting a request for a specific product from a particular consumer;
5 accepting a reserve price for said specific product from said particular consumer,
6 said reserve price comprising a price acceptable to said particular consumer;
7 distributing said request for said specific product and said reserve price to a set of
8 sellers;
9 accepting one offer from each said seller in said set of sellers until said particular
1 0 consumer accepts one of said offers or a first predetermined time limit expires,
1 1 each said offer comprising an offer price specifying a price at which an
1 2 associated seller ~~sell~~ will sell said specific product; ~~and~~
1 3 immediately consummating a transaction between said particular consumer and a
1 4 particular seller if said particular consumer accepts an offer from said
1 5 particular seller; and
1 6 consummating a transaction after said predetermined time limit expires if at least
1 7 only one of said offers contains an offer price less than or equal to said reserve
1 8 price.

1 21. (**Currently amended**) The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 20, said computer implemented method further comprising:
3 displaying a set of offer prices from said sellers to said particular consumer after
4 said first predetermined time limit has expired if no offer price is at or below
5 said reserve acceptable price;
6 allowing said particular consumer to select one ~~on~~ of said offers.

az 1 22. (**Cancelled**) The method as claimed in claim 20, said method
2 further comprising:
3 immediately consummating a transaction between said particular consumer and a
4 particular seller if said particular consumer accepts an offer from said
5 particular seller.

1 23. (**Currently amended**) The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 20 wherein listing a set of available products comprising operating a
3 World Wide Web site with a catalog of products.

1 24. (**Currently amended**) The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 23 wherein said catalog of products is searchable.

1 25. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 23 wherein said World Wide Web site comprises a hierarchical directory
3 of products.


1 26. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 20 wherein accepting a request for a specific product from a particular
3 consumer comprises receiving an HMTL form.

1 27. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 20 wherein distributing said request for said specific product to a set of
3 sellers comprises creating a web page that specifies said request for said specific product
4 and said reserve price.

1 28. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 20 wherein distributing said request for said specific product to a set of
3 sellers comprises sending an email to at least one seller that specifies said request for said
4 specific product and said reserve price.

1 29. (**Currently amended**) The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 20 wherein accepting an offer price from a seller comprises receiving an
3 email that specifies an offer price for said specific product.

1 30. (**Currently amended**) The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 20 wherein accepting an offer price from a seller comprises receiving an
3 HTML form page that specifies an offer price for said specific product.

 1 31. (**Currently amended**) The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 20, said computer implemented method further comprising:
3 immediately consummating a transaction after said first predetermined time
4 period has expired and only one offer has been received and said only one
5 offer contains an offer price below said reserve price.

1 32. (**Currently amended**) The computer implemented method as
2 claimed in claim 20, said computer implemented method further comprising:
3 receiving at least one offer with an offer price less than the reserve price and at
4 least one other offer from sellers and therefore performing the substeps of
5 displaying a set of offer prices from said sellers to said particular
6 consumer after said first predetermined time limit has expired if no
7 offer price is at or below said reserve acceptable price;

8 allowing, for a second predetermined time limit, said particular consumer
9 to select one of said offers;
10 consummating a transaction between said particular consumer and a
11 selected if said particular consumer selects one of said offers during
12 said second predetermined time limit; and
13 consummating a transaction between said particular consumer and a seller
14 that offered a lowest offer price if said particular consumer does not
15 select one of said offers during second predetermined time limit.

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1 33. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 20, said
2 method further comprising:
3 accepting a transaction fee ~~feed~~ after consummating said a transaction.